THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5722. *Friday, April* 24, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

" The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

YESTERDAY evening the performances commenced with *Richelieu*, followed by *How to Pay the Rent*, and *Hobbs, Dobbs and Stubbs* concluded.—The house was well attended.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

LAST night that good taste which has been of late so frequently evinced by the management, was again exhibited in the production of Arthur Murphy's Comedy, *Know Your Own Mind*, which was brought forward with the nicest tact as regards the costumes, &c. and the cast was very strong. This piece was originally produced in the year 1777, about the same period that Sheridan's *School for Scandal*, attained its great popularity. Murphy borrowed much of his Comedy from the *Irresolu* of Destouches, but contrived to throw so much hearty English humor into the piece, and likewise to disguise it so completely that it is far from being casually suspected of French extraction. *Millamour* is the part chiefly copied from Destouches. Anderson was entrusted with its representation, and played the capricious lover with care, but is far behind Elliston in the assumption. The merry witty *Dashwould*, intended by Murphy to represent Samuel Foote, was played by Mathews, who rattled through the part in a very agreeable manner, and obtained much applause. Cooper played the hypocritical *Malvin* very suitably, but the best acted character of the Comedy was Madame Vestris's *Lady Bell.* She performed the madcap in her own fascinating style, good breeding and ladylike manners shining through her vivacity. Mrs. Orger played *Mrs. Bromley*, Miss Lee was *Lady Jane*, and Miss Emmeline Montague made a very pretty and interesting *Miss Neville.* The notorious Baron Newman, the gamester, who, being detected by a gentleman, with whom he was playing at piquet, concealing a card in his hand, had his hand, containing the concealed card, pinned to the table by a fork, is the person alluded to by *Dashwould*, when he exclaims, "I saw him five times in one winter upon the fire at Bath for cheating at cards." When the same personage once complained to Foote that he had been put out of a two pair of stairs window for a similar affair, the wit, with great *naiveté* advised him never to play *so high* again. *The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood*, which followed the Comedy, rendered a most delightful close to the amusements of the evening.—The house was very full.

American Theatricals.—The old Louisville Theatre was destroyed by fire on the 18th of February, and Duffy's Theatre at Buffalo, belonging to Mr. E. Thomas, of Albany, shared the same fate three days afterwards. The latter house was insured for 4,000 dollars, and fortunately no lives were lost.—Mr. Charles Kemble's nephew, Charles Mason, has been on a starring tour, and met with great success at Vicksburg. He was accompanied by Mr. Mc Clure. An actress of some celebrity, named Trowbridge, recently

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took a Benefit at Columbus, Ohio, and having, during the performance won the warmest approbation of the audience, was at the conclusion of the Play favored with a calling out, and while thus receiving the congratulations of those she had amused, had a bag thrown at her. Nothing daunted, she picked it up, and opening it, she found it contained—not a mere compliment to her talent, but one hundred substantial half-dollars. Ranger has written a Comedy, entitled *The Lover Husband*, treating principally of jealousy, and domestic infelicity. Mr. and Mrs. Seguin and Horncastle have been giving concerts at Baltimore, Norfolk, and Charlston.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll'd to Madame TUSSAUD's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-st., Portman Sq.—Just added to their unrivalled collection, the splendid full length figures of Her Majesty the Queen, in her Windsor uniform, and Prince Albert in his military costume, also the group of John Knox, reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII, Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

Tuesday, I am to be found at the ROYAL DIORAMA, Regent's Park, admiring the two splendid Paintings byLe Chevalier Bouton, representing *The Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, in Westminster Abbey*, and the *Interior of the Church of Santa Croce*, at Florence, with all the effect of light and shade, from noon till midnight. This Exhibition is always crowded with fashionables.

Wednesday, pop into the Cosmorama Rooms, to admire a most interesting Exhibition of East and West Indian Fruits of natural size, hanging to the branches and trunks of the trees, pictorially represented,—truly beautiful.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Thursday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, Strand, next to Somerset House, to witness *The Industrious Fleas* go through their extraordinary performance of dancing, riding, driving, &c. also two Fleas deciding an affair of honour sword in hand. I then visited the Royal Glass Working Exhibition, paid only sixpence for admission, and received an article in return.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

On the same day, paid a delightful visit to *The Typorama*, Quadrant, Regent Street, a large and accurate modelled view of *The Underclff of the Isle of White*, constructed by L. L. B. Ibbotson, sq.

Afterwards called at Emmett's, 27, HolbornHill, to view his Novel Pen Maker by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute—also his much improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impairad to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

Went to visit some country cousins, found them at BLAKE's Tavern, King William Street, West Strand, quite surprised at the excellence of their fare, and cheapness of their beds, wines, spirits, and accommodation. On a Saturday evening there is a highly respectable convivial meeting held here, which commences at 9 o'clock.

"Why are my eyes like Balfe's Opera of *The Maid of Artois?*" "Because they've got the *Light of Other Days* in them!" through trying the efficacy of GRIMSTONE's Herbacious Eye Snuff—a 2s. 4d. & 1s. 3d. Canister restored my visual organs—quite a miracle—left off my spectacles.—Bought at 39, Broad-st, Bloomsbury—have a care to the inventor's signature—and that it is patronized by the Royal Family and authorized by her Majesty's Treasury on each canister.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Shakspeare's Comedy of

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Duke Senior..Mr DIDDEAR, Jaques..Mr COOPER,
Duke Frederick..Mr SELBY, Amiens..Mr W. HARRISON,
Le Beau.....Mr T. GREEN, Oliver.....Mr J. BLAND,
Orlando..Mr ANDERSON, Adam..Mr BARTLER,
William..Mr MEADOWS, Touchstone..Mr HARLEY,
Rosalind..Miss E. TREE, Celia..Miss RAINFORTH,
Phœbe..Miss E. BHILLIPS, Audrey..Mrs HUMBY,

After which, (5th Time) a New & Original Grand Comic, Romantic, Operatic Melo-Dramatic, Fairy Extravaganxa, in 3 parts, entitled The

SLEEPING BEAUTY
IN THE WOOD.

Scenery by the Messrs. Grieve. Music, by Mr J. H. Tully

Part First.—Period, 1583.

The BOUDOIR of the FAIRY BANEFUL,
Nine Thousand Miles North of the Kingdom of Noland.
The Fairy Baneful, Mrs TAYLEURE,
Newspaper Imp, (*not "Printer's Devil,"*) Master FLIGHT,

BANQUET HALL,
In the CASTLE of the KING of NOLAND.
Thomas, surnamed "Noddy," (*King of Noland*) Mr J. BLAND,
Queen Serena, (*His Consort*) Mrs MACNAMARA,
The Princess Is-a-belle, (*in Long Clothes*) by a Young LADY,
Nurse, Mrs EMDEN, Gentleman Usher, Mr RIDGWAY,
Baron Factotum, (*Grand-Lord-High-Everything*) Mr HARLEY

FAIRIES INVITED TO THE BANQUET.
The Fary Antidota, Miss LEE, The Fairy Elegantina, Miss PHILLIPS

Part Second.—Period, 1601.

VESTIBULE IN THE ROYAL CASTLE.
The Lady Aurora Abigail (1st of the Bedchamber) Miss RAINFORTH

APARTMENT OF THE PRINCESS,
The Princess Is-a-belle, (*aged* 18, *all but an hour*) Mad. VESTRIS,
Madlle. LUIGIA BETTONI, and Mon. SAXONI,
Will Dance *A NEW PAS DE DEUX,*

Lobby & Lumber Room at the Top of the Castle.
THE STATE BED CHAMBER.

Part Third.—Period, 1701.

MAGIC FORREST.
Larry O'Clog,) *Wood Cutters,* (Mr BROUGHAM,
Colin Clump,) (Mr KERRIDGE,
Prince Perfect, Mr J. VINING,
Castle Gates. Moat and Drawbridge. Old Palace Yard.
And *RE*-view of a Company of "The Old Guards."

A QUICK - SET Hedge,
And a MERRY Green Wood, in the SPRING time of the Year.
THE STATE BED CHAMBER, (exactly as before)
Person-ages "In Statu Quo"—Though a Century Older.
Ex-King of Noland. (aged 160) Mr J. BLAND,
Ex-Queen of ditto, (aged 150) Mrs MACNAMARA,
Lord Factotum, (aged 140) Mr HARLEY,
Lady Aurora Abigail, (aged 120) Miss RAINFORTH,
The Princess Is-a-belle, [still,] (aged 118) Mad. VESTRIS,
Illuminated Palace and Gardens, of the Fairy Antidota,
FETE AL - FRESCO.
La Cachoucha, by Mademoiselle MARIA LUIGIA BETTONI.
Departure of the Seven Faries, In a Patent
SAFETY "FLY"

Theatre Royal, Haymarket.

This Evening, the Drama of

THE RANSOM.

The President Montesquieu, ... Mr WARDE,
Mr Durvalle, Mr WALDRON, Edward, Mr W. LACY,
Capt Bordier, Mr HOWE, François le Blanc, Mr Gallot,
Estelle, Miss TRAVERS,
Gertrude le Blanc, ... Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Pauline, (her Daughter) Mrs E. YARNOLD,

To be followed by, a Comedy, in Two Acts, called

KING O'NEIL!

Louis XV, Mr J. WEBSTER,
Duke de Richelieu, ... Mr W. LACY,
Sir Henry Arundel, Mr HOWE,
General Count Dillon ..... Mr STRICKLAND,
Major de Burgh, Mr GOUGH,
Capt. O'Neil, (by courtesy, King of Ulster) Mr POWER,
With the Song of "*The Boys of the Irish Brigade.*"
Rafe, Mr WORRELL, Sentry, Mr GREEN,
Countess Dillon, Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Marchioness de Clermont, ... Miss TRAVERS,
Duchess de Mailly, Miss GROVE.

After which, the new Farce, in 2 Acts, by Mr. Bernard, called

His Last Legs.

O'Callaghan, (a Man of Genius on his Last Legs,) Mr POWER,
Rivers, (a Country Gentleman) Mr STRICKLAND,
Charles Rivers, Mr WALTER LACY,
Dr. Banks, Mr GOUGH.
Mrs Montague ..... Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Julia Banks, Miss TRAVERS,
Betty .... Miss GROVE.

To conclude with, (14th Time,) the New Piece, in One Act, called

Hobbs, Dobbs, & Stubbs!

Mr Hobbs, Mr Dobbs, Mr Stubbs, } *the Three Grocers,* { Mr WEBSTER, Mr STRICKLAND, Mr O. SMITH,
Valentine, Mr J. WEBSTER, Jeremiah, Mr OXBERRY,
Mrs Hobbs, Mrs W. CLIFFORD, Mrs Dobbs, Mrs F. MATTHEWS
Mrs Stubbs, Miss CHARLES, Rose, Miss TRAVERS.

To-morrow, The Lady of Lyons, How to Pay the Rent, and Hobbs, Dobbs, and Stubbs.

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